



## AIDS NETWORK OF EDMONTON

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### NEWSLETTER

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JUNE 30, 1986

Volume 1 Number 5

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The AIDS NETWORK - Ross Armstrong Office is at 10233 - 98 St. Our summer office hours are:

Mon - Tues	10:00 - 6:00
Wed - Fri	10:00 - 9:00

Our office phone number is 424-4767; and we also have an AIDS Phone-Line at 429-2437.

#### MAY EVENTS:

##### OFFICE FURNISHING PARTY

The May 23rd Office Furnishing / Wine and Cheese Party was quite successful, with over forty people attending. Contributions included everything from paper and supplies to partitions, desks, and chairs.

To everyone who attended and contributed, again, Thank-you.

##### BUDDIES

Over 480 people came to the Roxy Theatre on June 23, 24, and 25 to see Buddies. Everyone agreed that the film was an eye-opener.

Approximately \$2,400 was raised for the AIDS NETWORK. Thanks to all who attended - to Jodine, and also to Sue and all the rest of the staff at the Roxy for all of their help.

##### AIDS IN CANADA - UPDATE

The Laboratory Centre for Disease Control in Ottawa is reporting a total of 604 cases of AIDS in Canada, of whom 287 are dead. This figure is up from 496 cases in March.

Of this total, 29 cases were diagnosed in Alberta, 12 of whom are deceased.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Former Edmonton resident and friend, R. Armstrong died in Toronto on the afternoon of July 1 of AIDS-Related illnesses. A memorial service will be held Saturday, July 5; and a memorial fund will be created to provide financial support to those with AIDS or AIDS-Related Complex (ARC). Donations may be made care of the AIDS NETWORK Office.

#### MEMBERSHIPS

The AIDS NETWORK will begin to sell formal memberships for \$25.00 / year. 'Budget' memberships will also be available. For more information, call Larry at 424-4767.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

##### BOTTLE DRIVE

We're planning a Bottle Drive for the 19th of July. All you have to do is give us a call, and we'll come by to collect your bottles. If you want to get rid of them sooner, or if this date is not good for you, you may want to bring them here yourself

For more information, call Larry at 424-4767.

##### SECOND ANNUAL BAG LADY'S BALL / BEER BASH

Empress IX Lulu La Rude and Friends will be strutting their stuff once again for the AIDS NETWORK at Flashback on Tuesday, July 15. Draught beer will be included with the admission fee.

## SAFER SEX & HEALTHFUL LIVING SEMINAR

As a part of Gay and Lesbian Awareness Week, the AIDS NETWORK offered a seminar on Safer Sex & Healthful Living on the evening of June 19. About 30 men and women were in attendance to discuss the effects that AIDS has had on their lives.

Following a brief description of HIV transmission, the group broke into four smaller groups to discuss what kinds of sexual practises they felt were "safe" or "unsafe". Other topics included: 'negotiating' safer sex with prospective partners; feelings of embarrassment or discomfort with safer sex practises; and ways of increasing erotic enjoyment without increasing the risk of HIV infection.

There were a number of very good conclusions drawn from the discussions - most importantly that sex could be both enjoyable and safe. Instead of being told what they could not do, the participants explored all of the exciting things that they could do - whether that be in doing different things, or in doing the 'old' things differently.

Representatives came from the Love Shop at 11727 Jasper Ave. to show the group a large variety of stimulating massage oils, lubricants, vibrators, and other toys. Everyone had a good time looking and asking questions; feeling comfortable enough to talk frankly about their sexual practises, and being open to trying new things.

If you missed the seminar, and wished to attend, watch for the announcement of another presentation sometime in July.

## -FLASHBACK-

25¢ from every beer &  
highball sold donated  
to the AIDS NETWORK  
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

## EDITORIAL

The Federal Government is presently being lobbied by Kevin Brown, Warren Jensen, and the Vancouver FWA Coalition to have experimental drugs and more monies released for AIDS research. Our government is reluctant to release either until adequate facilities exist to evaluate the various proposed research studies. This reluctance is understandable, yet why is the government reluctant in making these first steps attainable?

The efforts of Mr. Brown, Mr. Jensen, and the FWA Coalition sadly show Canadians that we have much catching up to do with the rest of the world. And we can't afford to delay any longer -- Canada is second only to the US in the western world in the number of cases of AIDS.

We can't wait for other countries, nor should we 'ride on their coat-tails'. We have capable scientific talent of our own. We need our own viral culture centres, and we must develop our own research protocols. We urge all Canadians to join with Mr. Brown, Mr. Jensen, and other AIDS groups across Canada in telling the government to start doing something to responsibly and realistically address the problem of AIDS in this country.

## PARTICIPANTS NEEDED FOR AIDS & EPSTEIN - BARR VIRUS STUDY

There is increasing scientific evidence to suggest that a very common virus - Epstein Barr Virus - is important to those with HIV infection. The virus is very common, and in most people it causes no recognisable symptoms. In others, it may cause "mono" (infectious mononucleosis), but in persons with impaired immune systems, it can behave differently. Dr. Stan Houston and the STD Clinic are undertaking a study designed to characterise the association between Epstein-Barr Virus and AIDS.

Participants must be gay men who have taken the HIV Antibody test, regardless of that result. The study requires two visits, the second to follow a month after the first. There is no financial gain to participants, and confidentiality will be observed.

For more information, call Mary Rafter at the STD Clinic @ 427-2834.

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